



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

September 20, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Monday September 20th, 2021 in the Orange County Commissioners' Courtroom, 123 S. 6th Street, Orange, Texas 77630 AND Via Zoom, Meeting ID 865 7100 4865, Passcode 744675

Members Present:

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Jay Trahan, City of Orange
David Jones, Gopher Industrial
Brad Childs, Ace Hardware Childs Building
Dr. Tom Johnson, Lamar State College Orange

Members Absent:

Ida Schossow, GOACC
Shawn McAlpin – Orangefield ISD
Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4
Jerry Hood, City of Pinehurst
T.W. Permenter, City of Pinehurst
Jerry Jones, City of Bridge City
Daniel Moreaux, Moreaux Transportation Services
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange
Robbie Hood, City of Vidor
Stephen Lee, First Financial Bank
Travis Williams, Sabine River Authority
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies

Others Present:

Jessica Hill, Executive Director
Megan Romero, Business Development Manager
Chris Leavins, Legal Counsel

Official Notice of the meeting detailing the time, date, place and purpose (Agenda), was posted on the Orange County Economic Development Corporation website and Orange County Administration Building on September 9th, 2021.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Trahan opened the meeting at 10:05 am
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Chris Leavins led the invocation and Officer Stelly led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Recognize Guests.** None
4. **Open the floor to members of the public or of the Board of Directors of the Governing authority for inquiries about a subject not listed on the Agenda.** Speakers shall be requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes or less. Specific factual information, or existing policy, may be stated in response to an inquiry. Any Deliberation or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the Agenda for a subsequent Regular or Special Board Meeting.

No Comments

5. **Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes for any previous Meeting(s).**

Officer Stelly made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion carried.

6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**
 - (A) Motion to approve the financial report made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.
 - (B) Motion to approve bills for payment made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.**

Motion to approve the 2021-2022 Budget made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

8. **Nomination, discussion and action appointing the 2020-2021 OCEDC Board of Directors Officers.**

Motion by Commissioner Trahan to nominate 2021-2022 officers as listed below. Seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion carried.

2021-2022 Officers

Chair: Mike Stelly

Vice Chair: Jerry Jones

Secretary Treasurer: Jerry Hood

Asst. Secretary Treasurer: Robert Viator

9. **Discussion and possible action designating signatories on the OCEDC CommunityBank of Texas checking account and authorizing the execution of any necessary resolutions or authorizations regarding same.**

Motion to remove Johnny Trahan and add Robert Viator as check signer made by Officer Stelly. Seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

10. **Executive Director's Regular Report.**

Director Hill gave an update of the current project pipeline including state leads, the Entergy power plant expansion, steel project at Falcon Cove, project HM - a project dealing with coating for lithium ion batteries, unnamed project which would be an expansion of an existing Orange County company, and the hospital project at Eagle Point. She also reviewed the Industry Growth Strategy progress and discussed the meetings held by the project team in Orange County. Megan reviewed details of the HOT Tax applications for 2021-2022. There were 19 applications, which will be reviewed by the HOT Tax Committee in the coming weeks. Megan also gave an update on the progress of the OCEDC marketing videos, and noted that filming has been completed, and we are now awaiting updates on editing.

11. **Closed Meeting to Deliberate commercial or financial information that the Governmental Body has received from a business prospect that the Governmental Body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the Governmental Body and with which the Governmental Body is conducting economic development negotiations, or to Deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to such a business prospect, under Section 551.087 of the Act, regarding any current, confidential OCEDC Projects.**

No Closed Session

12. **Discussion and possible action resulting from Closed Meeting under Agenda Item No. 11.**

N/A

13. **Discussion and possible setting of date, time and place of any presently anticipated Special Meeting to be held prior to the next Regular Meeting.**

September 30th at 10:00 to amend proposed budget to reflect transfers for Industry Growth Strategy. Located in the Commissioner's Court Room.

- 14. Discussion and possible action regarding possible changes to the date, time and/or place of one or more particular Regular Session(s) if any of such factors are presently anticipated to be changed from standard Board Policy.**

November 1st. 10 AM Commissioner's Court Room.

- 15. Adjourn Meeting.**

Motion to adjourn made by Officer Stelly, seconded by Member Gauthier. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

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